

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

During prosecution of the parent Application, Serial No. 09/291,538, claims 1-11 of the Application were cancelled and new claims 12-16 were introduced, by an amendment dated September 10, 2003. The new claims are directed to a laser anneal device. This resulted in the issuance of a Communication dated October 8, 2003, from the Patent and Trademark Office. The Communication holds that the Amendment is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because the newly-submitted claims are drawn to an invention which is independent and distinct from the invention recited in the previously-examined claims. It is noted that the newly-submitted claims are drawn to a laser annealing apparatus, whereas the previously-examined claims were drawn to a transistor device.

Consequently, Applicants are filing this Continuation Application in order to have new claims 12-16 entered and considered. Examination of such claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

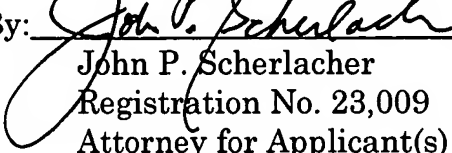
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6846 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Appl. No: Not Assigned [parent 09/291,538] Attorney Docket No. 81784.0291
Amdt. Dated: November 14, 2003 Customer No.: 26021
Reply to Office Communication of October 8, 2003 Express Mail, Label EV 325 214 787 US

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: November 14, 2003

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